

HONORING ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS PARISH SCHOOL FOR BEING NAMED A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate St. John of the Cross Parish School, an exemplary Catholic school in Western Springs, Illinois, for receiving the prestigious 2012 U.S. Department of Education National Blue Ribbon School Award. As a member of this parish, I am especially happy to see the hard work of the students, teachers, administrators, and parents recognized, and I want to congratulate Principal Kathleen Gorman, as well as our pastor, Rev. David P. Dowdle.

In 1982, the Department of Education established the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program to recognize public and private schools boasting high or significantly improved achievement. The program's goal is to identify attributes of thriving American schools in order to replicate their success in other schools. St. John of the Cross is one of only 50 private schools across the Nation to be named as a National Blue Ribbon School this year. This is a great achievement for everyone at the school and all members of the parish.

The mission of St. John of the Cross Parish School is to provide a safe and dynamic Catholic environment where faith is nourished and knowledge grows. The school offers challenging educational experiences that foster success, promote unity, and respect the individuality of each student. Since 1961, the school has prided itself on multi-generational Catholic traditions and achievement. St. John of the Cross has maintained a strong Catholic identity and strong academic standards throughout its history. In 2011, the school proudly celebrated its 50th anniversary.

St. John of the Cross Parish School offers programs from preschool through eighth grade and attracts students from Western Springs and surrounding communities, currently enrolling 630 students. Since its founding, the school has been supported by the St. John of the Cross Parish and has grown to become one of the largest Catholic schools in Chicago's Archdiocese. St. John of the Cross Parish School offers impressive science, technology, and art facilities as well as a wide range of student activities. All students are involved in the religious activities of the parish and participate in a variety of service projects. Today, the school benefits from the hard work and dedication of its principal, Kathleen Gorman, as well as its assistant principals, Zita Wheeling and Tom Clausing. This award recognizes the time and hard work of the teachers and students, as well as the critical support and involvement of the students' parents and the entire parish community. I am delighted that the excellent work and success of St. John of the Cross Parish School has been acknowledged on a national stage.

Please join me in celebrating the accomplishments of St. John of the Cross Parish School and all the National Blue Ribbon award winners. Their pursuit of academic excellence is inspiring, and I hope that their success can

serve as a model for schools across the Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 225TH BIRTHDAY OF ROBESON COUNTY, NC

HON. LARRY KISSELL

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Robeson County, NC, and the celebration of its 225th Birthday. Incorporated in 1787 from Bladen County, Robeson, North Carolina's largest county, is home to roughly 134,000 residents. Named after Colonel Thomas Robeson of the Revolutionary War, it boasts a rich American history. Col. Robeson served as one of the leaders at the Battle of Elizabethtown, an important battle won by the American patriots.

Robeson County is also home to the Lumbee American Indian tribe, and according to the U.S. Census, has the ninth largest population of American Indians in the United States, making up 38% of the population. Robeson County is truly a diverse county. Robeson is also home to the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, a historically Native American college.

Today, I ask all Members of Congress to join me in honoring Robeson County and its citizens, as irreplaceable assets to North Carolina, the state which I am proud to represent.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLEVELAND MUNICIPAL COURT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Cleveland Municipal Court which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this Saturday evening, September 15, 2012, with a Centennial Gala.

The Cleveland Municipal Court was established by an act of the Ohio General Assembly in 1911. The Court, originally located on the northwest corner of Public Square, opened its doors at 9:30 a.m. on January 2, 1912. Court was gavelled to order that morning by Chief Bailiff Charles Selzer following opening remarks by Cleveland Municipal Court Chief Justice William H. McGannon and Judges David B. Cull and George P. Baer. The other judges on the original municipal court bench were William B. Beebe, Samuel E. Kramer, Manuel V. Levine, and Fielder Sanders. Peter J. Henry was the original Clerk of the Court who served in that position for 35 years.

The Cleveland Municipal Court is the second oldest municipal court in the nation. Unlike the Justices of the Peace it replaced, the judges were required to be legally trained and were elected by the people rather than appointed by politicians. Also groundbreaking for its time, the Cleveland Municipal Court paid its

judges and staff salaries which did not depend on the fines they levied on those they found guilty.

Today, the Cleveland Municipal Court is located in the Justice Center Complex in Downtown Cleveland and consists of 13 elected judges and 14 magistrates, along with bailiffs and other administrative and support staff. The court handles misdemeanor crimes, including traffic, domestic, nuisance and other offenses, as well as civil cases if the total damages are \$15,000 or less. Its housing court has jurisdiction over criminal cases involving violations of Cleveland's housing, building, fire, zoning, health, waste collection, sidewalk, agriculture and air pollution codes. The housing court also hears civil cases involving landlord/tenant disputes.

Prominent judges who have served on the Cleveland Municipal Court include the late Carl B. Stokes who drew national attention as the first African-American mayor of one of the ten biggest cities in the United States. Our late colleague Stephanie Tubbs Jones also served as a Cleveland Municipal Court judge prior to her election as Cuyahoga County Prosecutor and later as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives. I am proud to have served as Clerk of Court from 1975 to 1977.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the important work that the Cleveland Municipal Court does. The Cleveland Municipal Court is one of the great institutions of our democratic system in bringing impartial justice to the people of Cleveland for the last 100 years and well into the future.

RECOGNIZING THE HEROIC ACTS OF TRANSPORTATION SECURITY OFFICERS JODY WELLMAN, JAMES BOSTWICK, AND CHRISTOPHER HASTINGS

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the heroic acts of bravery undertaken by Jody Wellman, James Bostwick, and Christopher Hastings of Washington State, who saved the lives of two individuals.

On the morning of Saturday, August 11, 2012, Transportation Security Officers (TSOs) Jody Wellman, James Bostwick, and Christopher Hastings intervened at a time of crisis to save the lives of a man and a woman who suffered a car accident on Interstate-5 in Washington State.

After colliding with a concrete utility box and sign post in the median of the interstate, a vehicle caught fire with a 21-year-old soldier from Joint Base Lewis-McChord and a 29-year-old female passenger inside. These courageous TSOs pulled off the interstate to assist the two passengers out of the vehicle, which burst into flames shortly thereafter. There is no doubt that these two lives were saved because of the heroic efforts of these three brave officers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jody Wellman, James Bostwick, and Christopher Hastings, who exemplify the spirit of service and commitment to one's community.